



Ruth Johnson
Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds
www.oakgov.com/clerkrod

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Representative Chair Corriveau & Committee Members,

I am writing to ask your support for HB 5739 and HB 4774 which are on the House Ethics and Elections Agenda today.

HB4774 will – quite simply – allow eligible residents to register to vote at any county, city or township clerk's office. This bill will make voter registration more accessible. Allowing all county, city and township clerks to accept voter registrations from any qualified Michigan citizen will encourage more eligible voters to register to vote and participate in the democratic process of voting.

HB 5739 will allow citizens who register to vote through mail registration processes to appear at any county, city or township clerk's office to have their identification verified. While HB 4774 satisfies HAVA identification requirements when registering in person, HB 5739 would allow an individual who chose to register by mail to visit any clerk's office and show valid identification to satisfy HAVA identification requirements.

These bills compliment each other and will allow all qualified electors who register to vote in person or by mail, equal access to satisfying identification requirements. I urge your support of bills that will increase voter participation and voter turn out. Voting is the foundation of our democracy and citizens should be encouraged to exercise their right to vote by having the most efficient access to the registration and ID verification process.

Sincerely,

Ruth Johnson
Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds

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